

closely with us, he has earned our respect and affection.

Most importantly, thanks to diplomats like Ambassador Chen, Taiwan and the United States are truly friends and our relationship is stronger now than at any other time. Having visited Taiwan myself, I have seen how much the Ambassador's country has been able to benefit from better relations, and I'm sure that his work has made Taiwan a better place.

Mr. Speaker, as Ambassador Chen concludes his tour of duty in Washington and his returning to Taipei, I bid him a fond farewell and wish him all the best. He has been a true friend, a man of principle and integrity, and we will surely miss him.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to recognize those heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. There is no tribute too great that we can offer these courageous men and women.

These men and women join a lengthy list of heroes from the 10th District of Virginia who have fought and died so that others might be free. Starting with the French and Indian War before our nation was formed to those serving today in hostile environments in the War on Terrorism, our district has proudly served the Armed Forces of the United States.

I take this opportunity today not only to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice but to honor the loved ones they left behind and let them know that this nation has not forgotten the pain they must endure.

The fallen lived and died with a nobility of purpose which those of us left behind have a sacred duty to carry on. Each one of us must fight to keep this nation free and worthy of sacrifice. There is no greater love for humanity than to give one's life for the freedom we all cherish.

I ask that everyone pray for the men and women in uniform who are in harm's way in Iraq, in Afghanistan and other parts of the world where we have a military presence. They need and deserve our support.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, there are no words that can lessen the intensity of families' grief and profound loss after learning that a son, daughter, or relative serving in the Armed Forces has fallen in the line of duty. I have recently written to five central Ohio families who have suffered such a loss as Part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and each time it weighs heavily on my heart.

Army Pfc. Kevin Ott, Army Pfc. Branden Oberleitner, Pfc. Nicholas Zimmer, Army

Staff Sgt. Aaron Reese, and Army Master Sgt. George Fernandez were the truest of all patriots. These soldiers will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved them, and their families are in my thoughts and prayers.

The unique sacrifice that fallen soldiers share, giving their lives for the development and protection of freedom, place them among those in our history who will be remembered for dedicating themselves to the greatest of all ideals that we as Americans hold dear.

America is eternally grateful to these and all of our soldiers for their courageous and dedicated service to our great nation and their valor in bringing freedom to the Iraqi and Afghani people. They have not only worked to bring liberation and justice to these oppressed people, but have also made America safer from the threat of terrorism by rooting out evil where it is hiding around the globe. I am extremely impressed by the poise and sense of duty and purpose with which all our young men and women in the armed forces conduct themselves. Their resolve to finish the job, because it means doing the right thing for the world even in the face of making the ultimate sacrifice, is truly inspiring.

This Memorial Day, I will reflect on the sacrifices made by these soldiers and the long list of men and women who viewed their lives as subject to the preservation of liberty. May God bless our troops, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF RAMA MAE GROVES STEEN

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Rama Mae Groves Steen; and

Whereas, Rama Mae Groves Steen was a loving sister, daughter, aunt, and wife to the members of her family. Rama Mae was a member of the Alpha Rho Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International of Guernsey and Noble County, a National Teachers Honorary, life member of the Ohio retired Teachers Association, Caldwell Woman's Literary Club, Order of the Eastern Star, Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, Rosa Shrine 8 of Zanesville; and

Whereas, Rama Mae Groves Steen served in the past as chairman of the Central and Executive Committees of Noble County Republican Party, Noble County Republican Woman's Club; and

Whereas, Rama Mae Groves Steen will certainly be remembered by all those who knew her because of her loving nature towards her family, friends, and community; and

Whereas, the understanding and caring to which she gave to others will stand as a monument to a truly fine person. Her life and love gave joy to all who knew her; and

Therefore, while I understand how words cannot express our grief at this most trying of times, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family and friends of Rama Mae Groves Steen.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today still afraid for our Nation's security. Not because of terror alerts, but because our borders remain porous. The enforcement of our immigration policy is impotent, resulting in a continued flood of illegal immigrants across our borders.

It is time for the federal government to stop letting unchecked mass immigration undermine the wages, safety, and benefits in one occupation after another. It is time for the federal government to moderate immigration and to treat American workers, citizen and immigrant, with the respect they deserve.

Our constituents did not elect us to help cheapen the quality of their lives by importing foreign workers at six to eight times the historical average. There is no getting around the fact that when we cheapen labor with unchecked illegal immigration, we cheapen our neighbors, both citizens and immigrants alike.

If we moderate immigration in the context of an historical average, we will remain the most open society in the world, and begin to halt America's slide from a middle class, to a poverty class, society.

I call on my colleagues to join me in working to reform our immigration policies and to halt the cheapening of America's citizen and immigrant workers. Without real immigration reform, our borders will not be safe and our citizens will be at risk.

RECOGNIZING MARO EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ASSOCIATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize MARO Employment and Training Association. This organization will be celebrating thirty years of community service in June 2004. MARO Employment and Training Association represents 60 not-for-profit community organizations, providing vocational training, employment and support services for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment and community access.

MARO Employment and Training Association assists members by sharing information with community organizations regarding how to serve people with a number of varying disabilities. The group works on both the state and federal level to increase opportunities for people with barriers to employment. Members are offered affordable Workers' Compensation Insurance and prescription drug coverage through self-insured programs as well as an array of networking opportunities.

MARO Employment and Training Association works together with the Michigan Community Mental Health agencies, the Department of Labor and Economic Growth, Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Michigan Works! agencies, the Michigan Department of Corrections, the Michigan Commission for the Blind, and with local schools.